

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SAA-01
SSM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 OMB-01
TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 HA-05 /115 W
-----120335 201718Z /41

O 201650Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1693
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 17426

USICA FOR PGM/RC

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG IS US
SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS ON LONDON: WINDUP "WITHOUT RESULT"
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SUMMARY. PRESS PORTRAYS LONDON CONFERENCE ENDING WITHOUT
SPECIFIC RESULTS. KAMEL REPORTEDLY "DISAPPOINTED" OVER
ISRAEL'S NON-RESPONSE AND SAYS EGYPT WILL NOT MEET AGAIN
UNLESS ISRAEL AGREES TO WITHDRAW AND RECOGNIZE PALES-
TINIAN RIGHTS. (HOWEVER, IN FIRST EDITION AHAM SAID
KAMEL HAD AGREED TO NEW MEETING AFTER ISRAEL AGREED TO

RECONSIDER GOE PROPOSAL.) IN KHARTOUM, SADAT CALLS ON ISRAEL TO DEMONSTRATE "SERIOUSNESS" FOR PEACE. PRESS PLAYS UP CONTINUING DIVISIONS IN ISRAEL AND CONCERN OVER ISOLATION. "DIPLOMATIC SOURCES" IN ISRAEL SAY BEGIN CONSIDERING RESTORATION OF EGYPTIAN ADMINISTRATION TO AL-ARISH AS GOODWILL GESTURE AND THAT SADAT TOLD WEIZMAN HE WANTS TO VISIT MOUNT SINAI IN OCTOBER. MUSSAWAR EDITOR EXPECTS NON-RESULT OF LONDON CONFERENCE TO LEAD TO BEGIN'S REPLACEMENT OR "AMERICAN PLAN" WHICH HE COULD NOT RESIST. END SUMMARY.

1. HEADLINES JULY 20 INDICATE LONDON-LEEDS CONFERENCE ENDED "WITHOUT SPECIFIC RESULTS". SADAT'S STATEMENTS IN KHARTOUM THAT IT UP TO ISRAEL TO PROVE ITS SERIOUSNESS AND THAT ISRAEL UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND INITIATIVE ALSO HEADLINED. PAPERS HAVE SECRETARY VANCE DECLARING "NO PROGRESS" AND REPORT HE WILL TOUR AREA "IN TWO WEEKS".

2. KAMEL STATEMENT. FORMIN KAMEL REPORTEDLY STATED THAT EGYPT WILL NOT MEET WITH ISRAEL AGAIN UNLESS THERE NEW ELEMENTS AND ISRAEL GIVES COMMITMENT TO WITHDRAW AND RECOGNIZE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHTS. KAMEL REPORTEDLY DENIED ANY AGREEMENT ON VENUE FOR NEW MEETING. AHARAM QUOTES "INFORMED SOURCES" WHO CLAIM KAMEL FELT "DISAPPOINTMENT" OVER ISRAEL'S "NON-RESPONSE" AND THAT KAMEL HAD TELEPHONED SADAT IN KHARTOUM PREVIOUS EVENING.
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(CONTRARY TO ABOVE AND HIS OWN STORY IN AHARAM'S LATER EDITIONS, HAMDI FUAD WROTE IN FIRST EDITION THAT KAMEL HAD AGREED TO RESUME CONTACT AFTER ISRAEL HAD AGREED TO RECONSIDER EGYPT'S PROPOSALS, WHICH IT HAD PREVIOUSLY REJECTED.)

3. SADAT IN KHARTOUM. AS WELL AS GIVING PROMINENCE TO SADAT'S KHARTOUM STATEMENTS ABOUT ISRAELI SERIOUSNESS, SADAT TOLD OAU THAT IF ISRAEL DOES NOT "OVERCOME METHODS OF THE PAST" IT WILL SERIOUSLY DAMAGE THE PEACE PROCESS. EGYPT FAVORS PEACE BASED ON JUSTICE; INITIATIVE DEFENDED BY SADAT AS HAVING LED TO A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN WORLD SUPPORT FOR ARAB RIGHTS. THERE COULD BE NO COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT UNLESS IT BASED ON RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS.

4. U.S. STATEMENTS. AS REPORTED HERE, SECRETARY SAID BASIC DIFFERENCES STILL EXIST BETWEEN TWO SIDES AND LEEDS CONFERENCE WITNESSED "DEEPEST AND FRANKEST" DISCUSSIONS TWO SIDES HAD HAD. (AKHBAR LEAD REPORTS VANCE INTERVENED "MORE THAN ONCE" TO "CALM" THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE TALKS.) VANCE CONFIRMED ATHERTON WILL PROCEED TO AREA

TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH PARTIES CONCERNED AND TO HELP
ARRANGE OTHER MEETINGS IF THEY DEEM FIT. HODDING CARTER
REPORTEDLY DENIED U.S. HAD SUBMITTED ANY PROPOSALS TO
CONFERENCE EITHER DURING THE MEETINGS OR DURING BILATERAL
CONTACTS. CARTER DESCRIBED MEETINGS AS "SERIOUS" AND
THAT THEY DEALT WITH PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS
IN LIGHT OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY TWO SIDES.

5. ISRAEL. PRESS HAS FRONT-PAGE STORIES REPORTING CLASH
BETWEEN PERES AND BEGIN IN KNESSET AND THAT THERE IS
"DEEP CONCERN" IN POLITICAL CIRCLES IN ISRAEL THAT BEGIN
IS LOSING PRESTIGE AND CONTROL OVER HIS GOVERNMENT AND
THAT ISRAEL'S ISOLATION IS INCREASING. THERE IS ALSO
NEWS AGENCY REPORT FROM TEL AVIV, WHICH APPEARED IN
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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER AND IN AKHBAR, THAT "DIPLOMATIC
SOURCES" IN ISRAEL SAY BEGIN CONSIDERING PROPOSAL TO
RESTORE EGYPTIAN CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION TO AL ARISH
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AS GOODWILL GESTURE TO BOOST PROSPECTS OF NEGOTIATION.
SOURCES FURTHER SAID THAT SADAT MENTIONED TO WEIZMAN
DURING TALKS IN AUSTRIA THAT SUCH A STEP WOULD
LEAD TO IMPROVING RELATIONS BETWEEN CAIRO AND TEL AVIV.
SAME SOURCES ADDED THAT SADAT HAD ALSO EXPRESSED TO
WEIZMAN HIS DESIRE TO VISIT MOUNT SINAI IN SOUTHERN
SECTION OF EGYPTIAN PENINSULA NEXT OCTOBER TO LAY
FOUNDATION STONE OF SMALL MOSQUE ON THE MOUNTAIN.

6. EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM MUSSAWAR MANAGING EDITOR
FOUMIL LABIB ASKS WHY LONDON CONFERENCE WAS CALLED
WHEN MOST EXPECTED IT TO FAIL. HE ANSWERS THAT LONDON HE-
LD SO U.S. CAN UNCOVER BEGIN ONCE MORE BEFORE HIS
PEOPLE BUT NOT TO SEEM TO PRESSURE HIM, WHICH WOULD
ONLY STRENGTHEN HIS POSITION. LONDON "NON-RESULT"EX-
PECTED TO PUT BEGIN ON "BRINK OF ABYSS" AND MAY RESULT
IN HIS BEING SUCCEEDED BY WEIZMAN OR PERES, OR AT
LEAST INCREASE ENMITY BETWEEN BEGIN AND HIS OPPONENTS
AS WELL AS BETWEEN BEGIN AND U.S. LABIB OBSERVES THAT
BEGIN WOULD BE IN NO POSITION TO RESIST AN AMERICAN PLAN,
EVEN IF IT WERE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO BEGIN. SCARRITT

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PEPR, EG, IS, US
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